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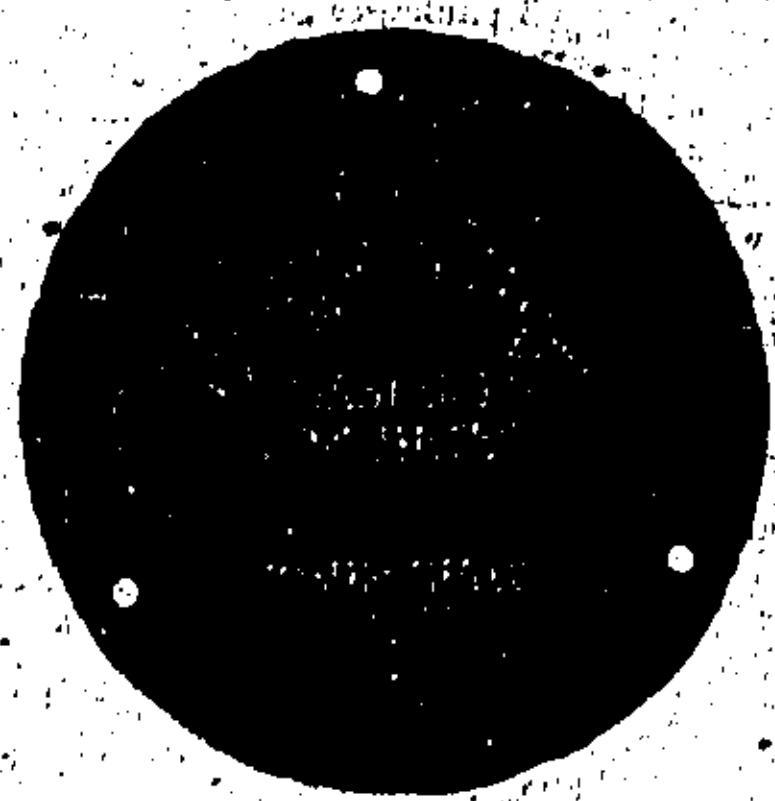
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[125]

### LENIN'S WORLD PLOT. DANGER TO THE WEST.

ENGLAND WARNED.

Dr. Harold Williams writes in the

Times:—  
The Bolsheviks have greatly increased their prestige outside Russia during the last few months. The new Power that has arisen in the East out of the wreck and ruin of the war is attracting the puzzled attention of war-weary peoples and Governments.

Lenin has every reason to congratulate himself on his success. Four years ago the head of a tiny coterie in La Carouge, the home of revolutionary exiles in Geneva, he now finds the Governments of Europe, the victors and the vanquished, watching his movements with respect not untinged with fear, scanning his wireless with eager interest, trying to solve the difficult problem of establishing regular relations with him and with his unprecedented form of government.

Italy has established friendly relations and has begun to trade with him. Czechoslovakia is interested, and is making friendly overtures. A Bolshevik envoy has taken up his residence in Berlin, and Dr. Simons, the German Foreign Minister, has declared that it is absurd to stigmatize the members of the Soviet Government as criminals. It is not impossible, indeed, that a treaty has been concluded between the Governments of Moscow and Berlin. And the most remarkable fact of all—Lenin's envoys are received in England with an interest and an attention more marked than that accorded to the representatives of any foreign Power. There is a pressing demand in many quarters, for peace with Russia, the establishment of normal trade relations, and the recognition of the Soviet Government.

It is not that the Bolshevik doctrine in its extreme form is accepted for the moment by any but a small body of extremists. The average practical man certainly does not like what he knows of Bolshevism, and is just a little afraid of it. But an atmosphere favourable to Bolshevism has been created in many circles that reject Lenin's doctrine and would resent the idea of his system being established in England. These very circles ardently support Lenin at every stage of those difficult and complicated international negotiations that are preparing for him a triumphant march into Western Europe.

In this process those small nationalities, whose independence a short time ago was one of the chief articles of their creed, will inevitably be sacrificed if apparently not a consideration that seriously troubles their sense of consistency. They are in the power of an emotion that makes them regard everything that the Bolsheviks do—in international politics—as right, and everything that their opponents do as wrong. Lenin's battles are being fought for him by Governments which he openly defies and insults, and by Liberals, Labour Leaders, and Socialists on whose persons and whose policy he pours continual scorn. This "Piper of Moscow" plays a wonderful tune that makes a most motley crowd dance down the broad way, whose end he triumphantly and contemptuously foretells.

A WORLD REVOLUTION.  
For this sinister figure who is now becoming a controlling force in European politics makes no secret of his plans. Vladimir Ilyanov, the son of a Volga schoolmaster, has for the last 25 years, thought and studied and worked, and is now working with unceasing energy and prestige, to bring about a world revolution. The idea is, of course, incredible and absurd. But three years ago the idea that Lenin would attain the position he has now attained seemed hardly less credible and hardly less absurd. He has succeeded to far beyond all expectation. Is it possible that his successes will develop till his goal is reached?

President Wilson's programme has failed. An intractable Europe has refused to submit to the Fourteen Points. Is it possible that it is Lenin after all who has guessed the secret of the historical process in which we are involved, and that the new world that is to come after the war will be moulded after his fantastic conceptions?

It is time to determine our attitude to this question, which is really the one important question at issue. What primarily matters is not whether Russia possesses the right or whether Poland has the right or wrong in the various stages of her conflict with the Soviets. The only thing that really matters now is whether Lenin will succeed in plunging Europe into a series of civil and international wars in his efforts to bring about a universal revolution and to establish in a world, just come to a consciousness of its unity, the dictatorship of the proletariat.

The divisions of Europe, the incoherence of opinion in every country, the absorption of petty parties in minor issues, favour the development of the Bolshevik plan. Bolshevism is no longer a Russian phenomenon, and, indeed, it has never been intended to be simply Russian. Russia has passed through the bitter experience. She knows to the remotest wave of her struggling consciousness what Bolshevism is, and her condition may be a warning or an example to the rest of the world.

Bolshevism has come out definitely into the international arena, and immediately affects us. Lenin's plans are of vital importance for our own future. Is the future of England going to be as we would like it or as Lenin would like it? Lenin has definite plans. Have we?

I am fully aware that to many the question, thus sharply put, may savour of an exaggerated anxiety, a wilful pessimism that has no warrant in the present situation. I shall be told that Bolshevism is not such a great danger as it seems, that in Russia Bolshevism is bound to fail, and that the best way to hasten its failure is to bring it into as close touch as is possible with a calmer and healthier world.

AN INTERNATIONAL MOVEMENT.

There are a hundred arguments, both facile and subtle, to prove that Bolshevism does not constitute a danger to England. That the British workman, by reason of his habits, his temperament, his sporting instinct, and his sense of humour, is impervious to the abstruse and essentially alien Bolshevik doctrine, and that his distrust of foreigners will render him hostile

to a movement whose foreign origin and foreign leadership cannot fail to be obvious; that the soft and placid outlines of England landscape are unfavourable to revolutionary passion, and that compromise is the characteristic feature of the British spirit in all classes.

Let us have peace, then, runs the argument, and let us finish with the trouble, once and for all. Let Russia go her own chosen way, and let us go our way. Once the continual menace of war is removed, since the relations between Great Britain and Russia cease to be acute, most people will cease to take an interest in Bolshevism, it will no longer be a subject of violent controversy; and if it is no longer forced on public attention its opportunities for propaganda will largely disappear.

Bolshevism is essentially an international movement, and has now come definitely out into the international arena. It thrives on international complications, and by virtue of these complications, which show no sign of coming to a speedy end, it subtly infuses its temper and methods into the internal processes of each country. Its leaders have a very keen apprehension of the international tactics required for their purposes.

It may not, therefore, be altogether superfluous to scrutinize, at this particular moment, the methods by which the Bolsheviks hope to attain their goal. And, first of all, it must be emphasized that they are perfectly serious in their purpose. They are really out for a world revolution, for the accomplishment of which they would prefer to use the British Empire as a lever.

They do not conceal their aim. In fact they make such a noise about it that sober-minded people in England imagine that they cannot be serious, that they are crying "Wolf," bluffing, or performing some other antics necessary for demagogic effect. We are assured that they really want peace for the purposes of internal consolidation, and that, once they get peace, they will become moderate, cease their revolutionary effort, and concentrate on internal reform.

Nothing of the sort. What will happen in Russia after peace is concluded I do not know. That depends on a number of factors that need not be discussed here. But that the Bolsheviks, having secured peace, will abandon their revolutionary effort no one who knows the Bolsheviks for a moment doubts. The world revolution is the *raison d'être* of their existence.

EMPIRE UNREST.

In Russia it was the war that gave Lenin his opportunity. In England it is the peace. It is singular that England at the present moment affords such wide scope for Bolshevik activities, but there it is—what with Poland, Russia, Ireland, India, Mesopotamia, our troubles with Germany and our differences with France—with Labour inclined to be restive in the background, it does not matter that the bulk of English people know and care little about these questions, just as the great majority of the Russian people know and care nothing about the question of annexations and indemnities that formed the main theme of Bolshevik agitation in 1917.

There is a widespread feeling of sympathy for oppressed peoples and distrust of anything that savours of aggressive imperialism, and these feelings the Bolsheviks know very well how to exploit. They play on generous humanitarian sentiment and fan it to white heat on behalf of remote causes of which very few know the rights and wrongs. Partisan feeling is roused to its highest pitch on issues that to most people are obscure. Catchwords are set in motion, and soon come to be accepted by thousands as indisputable truths. The authority of government is steadily undermined. Efforts are made to put the Government openly in the wrong, to make it appear ridiculous or treacherous. It is persistently represented as a class government, a capitalist government, even though it be the product of universal suffrage.

Amid all the complications that arise over such issues, the doctrine of class war is kept to the front, and people who are none Socialists and have no interest in sociological theory are subtly influenced by this propaganda. Democratic sentiment becomes gradually imbued with the doctrine of class war, which is the negation of democracy. Labour organizations are drawn into an international movement. Labour unrest is exploited for international ends. The economic struggle is complicated with political issues. By ingenious manipulation conflicts over questions of wages, hours, and industrial policy are arranged and combined to embarrass the action of the Government in foreign affairs.

INGENUOUS PROPAGANDA.

But this is not all. If the class issues were clearly and sharply put, isolated from all the complexity of national and international interests and antagonisms, if the class war were openly proclaimed as an attack on property in all its forms and dimensions and on the present system of order and civilization, there would be unanimity on the one side and the other. The chances are that the Bolshevik propaganda would have little success in face of the powerful forces that would be ranged against it.

International conflicts give just the opportunity needed to obscure the real issue. The most remarkable feature of Bolshevik propaganda is the way in which it rallies to its support a large mass of progressive opinion that would be emphatically anti-Bolshevik if the question arose of establishing the so-called dictatorship of the proletariat in England.

The moderate Labour leaders, and even a certain number of Liberals, are willing and eager at certain moments and in varying ways to support Bolshevik tactics.

In the case of the Liberals, the situation appears to me to be this. Lulled into security by prosperity and by the seeming solidity of the institutions and the economic structure in which they have their being, they indulge their humanitarian sentiments to the full. They believe wholeheartedly in the power of moral suasion. They believe in the fundamental goodness of mankind, and they are bitterly opposed to the exercise of coercion, more particularly by their own Government, whether this take the form of a war abroad or administrative measures at home.

(Continued at foot of next column.)

### SHOULD A MAN BE SINGLE OR MARRIED?

A CHINESE UNDERGRADUATE'S  
VIEWS.

[The following essay was written by a Chinese Undergraduate of the Hongkong University. It is hardly necessary to say that the subject was not "set," but chosen by the student himself.]

That the male and the female are to be coupled is so inevitable an event, and that "the world must be peopled," so evident a truth, that the question of whether a man should be single or married scarcely affords any ground for discussion. It is men's duty, as well as their privilege, to get married in order that they may have descendants to "replenish the earth." A family is a prescribed yoke to which one must submit one's neck. It can hardly be regarded as humane to elude the fate of "sighing away Sundays" and leave others to "chant faint hymns to the cold fruitless moon." Evils arising out of apparent singleness can be checked only by legal marriage, and "adulterous lust" can be driven out only by "wedded love."

However, we have only been dwelling upon morality so far. Looked at from the practical point of view, apart from religious doctrines, philosophical postulates or ethical maxims, the question on hand must not be denied its value as a subject for debate. It is simply silly to believe that it is impossible to "defy Cupid" and that "the seven stages of men" must all be endured without a single exception. We shall, therefore, approach our problem from the consideration of the immediate personal effects of singleness and marriage. If we set them to be "weighed in the balance," we find sufficient material to fill both scales. On the one hand, we have the facts that a single man has a better chance of attaining a high standard of living; that he is allowed the time to pursue profound studies; that he is capable of being a cosmopolitan as a means of broadening his knowledge; that he, by being single, extenuates the bitterness of the tragedy of his life; and finally, that he is fit for great undertakings and ambitious achievements. A single man can have lofty aims. He lives in a high altitude, while the married man is tethered to the trivialities of women and children, and is thereby obliged to crawl on a low level. If it is true that "they that have wives should be as though they had none," it is obviously no business of the single man to hurry into marriage.

On the other hand, we have the facts that a married life is not without its joys; that a marriage founded in discretion results oftener in the mutual help of the husband and wife than in their mutual interference. The sweetness of home, which only the married man can tell, is enough to counterbalance all the advantages gained by the single man. As "much might be said on both sides," the reader is left to see for himself how long the balance is to remain in equilibrium.

In the case of the moderate Labour leaders these considerations are reinforced by the necessity of making continual concessions to the extremists in their movement in order that these, by inflammatory agitation, should not wrest from them the power they wield over the masses.

CRAFTY TACTICS.

Now suppose the Bolsheviks, with their now greatly enhanced resources, with to provoke a social revolution in England—and that that is their intention their own utterances make dazzlingly clear, to the point of blinding the eyes of those who will not believe.

Their tactics are obvious. They have undertaken a definite strategic action against the British Empire. They are fomenting rebellion in Ireland, in India, and in Egypt. They are undermining British influence in Persia. By a subtle propaganda, that plays on all the strings of British whim, prejudice, and party feeling, they have created in British opinion a hopeless confusion as to the real nature of their own régime in Russia. They have taken the "most advantage of after-the-war disappointments, and rivalries. They have edged their way into the complexities of the international diplomatic game, and have played in it a most skilful and successful part. They work in the heart of the British Labour movement, and the only British Labour daily is cleverly run in their interests.

Their action intimidates British Labour leaders into a slippery policy of compromise with the extreme demands which they provoke, and embroils the Labour movement in risky conflicts, which prevent the development of a sound and progressive Labour policy. The sympathies of a certain section of Liberals are engaged in the struggle. Their antipathy to war and to administrative coercion are subtly appealed to in order to range them on the Bolshevik side in the present stage of the conflict. They are intimidated by the mere shadow of reaction.

If the question of Ireland, of India, or of Egypt is discussed, their most passionate endeavour is to prevent anything that suggests the use of force. If, in the progress of disturbance, a movement of revolt were to arise in England, they could be trusted to raise a violent outcry against the use of coercion here. Yet, by a strange incongruity, they are always eager to find excuses for the exercise of the most cruel and abominable forms of coercion on the part of the Bolsheviks.

It is short-sighted to imagine that if the Polish conflict is settled, Bolshevism will die down in England. In any form or another, in connection with ever multiplying international conflicts, the Bolsheviks will find increasing opportunity for propaganda and action on their chosen lines.

I do not believe that if it came to an open fight a Bolshevik revolution in England would succeed. But the attempt is imminent, and we are rapidly drifting into a position in which strategic advantages are accumulating in the hands of the Bolsheviks. It is as well to scrutinize their tactics closely, for in a world of weakness, vacillation, and compromise they alone have a policy and a purpose.

## A. D. C.

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SPORT.  
CRICKET.

## INTER-PORT TRIAL.

The following teams have been selected for a trial match to be played on the Hongkong Club ground on Monday next, October 11th, commencing at 10.15 a.m.:

Mr. Hancock's Team.—R. Hancock, Capt. Davies, Capt. Oliver, T. E. Pearce, Major Edwards, G. R. Sayer, Lt. Franks, R.N., Major Middlemass, E. B. Reed, A. E. Wood, R. L. D. Wodehouse.

Mr. Turner's Team.—W. C. D. Turner, Capt. Gray, C. Blaker, Capt. Spinks, J. Stalker, Col. Bowen, Major Bagnall, R. E. O. Bird, J. P. Bragg, Capt. Harris, Lt. Hammond, Lt. Ryan, F. J. de Rome, Lt. Graham, J. R. Farthing.

## HONGKONG FOOTBALL CLUB.

The following will represent the Club XI against the Kowloon Football Club, on the Club ground, kick-off 4.30 p.m. sharp:—C. Wilkie, W. Gorman, C. Young, Rev. Martin, J. Currier, J. Ireland, G. May, J. Groot, C. C. Zeveryn, W. Moore, J. Sherry.

The following will represent the Club in a friendly game against the Wiltshire Regiment, kick-off 4.30 p.m. sharp, Club ground:—G. Rodgers, M. Tinkin, Laurence, J. W. McPhail, J. Rodger, J. Ralston, Day, Goldenberg, Sandberg, R. S. Logan, E. Riss.

## HONGKONG JOCKEY CLUB.

## LARSEN GRIFFIN DRAW.

The draw for the Larsen Griffin, which arrived from Tientsin yesterday by the *Chipping*, at the Hongkong Jockey Club resulted as follows:—

| No. | Colour.   | Drawn by.           |
|-----|-----------|---------------------|
| 1.  | Bay.      | A. R. Love.         |
| 2.  | Bay.      | G. C. Moxon.        |
| 3.  | Black.    | R. J. Paterson.     |
| 4.  | Black.    | Adams.              |
| 5.  | Grey.     | Lady Chater.        |
| 6.  | White.    | Towers.             |
| 7.  | Chestnut. | L. N. Lee.          |
| 8.  | Chestnut. | J. Johnson.         |
| 9.  | Bay.      | Dr. Jordan.         |
| 10. | Grey.     | P. H. Holyoak.      |
| 11. | Chestnut. | H. Seth.            |
| 12. | White.    | J. B. Irving.       |
| 13. | Chestnut. | C. L. Roza.         |
| 14. | Chestnut. | Sir Paul Chater.    |
| 15. | Grey.     | Dr. Forsyth.        |
| 16. | Grey.     | Towers.             |
| 17. | Bay.      | J. B. Irving.       |
| 18. | Chestnut. | L. N. Lee.          |
| 19. | Dun.      | P. C. Potts.        |
| 20. | Silver.   | J. M. Almada.       |
| 21. | Grey.     | H. A. Shaw.         |
| 22. | Cream.    | P. A. Cox.          |
| 23. | Chestnut. | Wobbe.              |
| 24. | Chestnut. | E. Des Vaux.        |
| 25. | Grey.     | J. Johnson.         |
| 26. | Chestnut. | Saints.             |
| 27. | Dun.      | Nemaze.             |
| 28. | Black.    | Noraha.             |
| 29. | Chestnut. | Sir Ellis Kadoorie. |

Whilst the "Larsen" Griffin, ordered for the next annual race meeting were being landed from the *Chipping* yesterday, at Douglas wharf yesterday one of them by a false step when walking down the plank, fell into the water between the ship and the wharf, and was hauled up dead.

## RUGBY FOOTBALL.

## YESTERDAY'S PRACTICE GAME.

It was a pity that two full teams did not take the field in the practice game of Rugby football played at Happy Valley, yesterday. More so, as there is to be a cup competition this season. Although rugby football has not the hold on enthusiasts that Association football has in this Colony, it is still a very interesting game and there is no doubt that there are several men in this Colony who have played at Home. It is hoped that they will send in their names to Mr. J. Ralston, the Captain, at Queen's College.

Only eighteen men turned up for the game, yesterday, and, although at times it was rather scrappy, there were several extremely fine individual efforts. Mr. Ralston captained one side and Mr. Wallace the other. The game revealed the fact that the Colony possesses some good men, who, with a little practice, ought to make a name for themselves in this particular sport. Of those who took part in the game, Ralston, Wallace, Harper, Lieut. Bevan, Smythe and Hall were about the best on the field. McCann did not appear to be in training, and Tinson, although performing some good work in the scrums, was not in form.

The Club have a number of likely players in H. C. B. Way, J. W. Alabaster, Hope and Cooper, who did not turn out yesterday. They are all said to be fast forwards and may play in the match against the *Ambrose* on Friday.

## GENERAL MEETING.

A general meeting of the Rugby Section of the Hongkong Football Club was held after the game.

The appointment of Mr. J. Ralston as Captain was confirmed. Mr. G. Tinson was appointed Vice-Captain and the Committee elected were Messrs. Wallace, Smyth and Alabaster.

Entries for the cup competition are being invited. Practices will be held on the Club ground on Thursdays and anyone, whether or no he is a member of the Club, is invited to turn out.

## CRAIGENGOWER CRICKET CLUB.

## ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING.

The annual general meeting of the Craigenower Cricket Club was held yesterday evening, in the Club premises and was largely attended. Mr. R. Bass presided.

The Chairman expressed the regret the meeting felt at the absence of Mr. J. H. N. Mody, their President, and Mr. R. E. Bellies, their Vice-President. The report was very satisfactory and they had a successful financial year. There was an increased number of members in the Club. A matter he regretted was the outstanding debts of the Club, of which \$1,500 had been collected. He hoped the members would settle up their accounts. He thanked Messrs. Mody and Bellies for additions to the pavilion, Dr. Kew and another member for a brilliant table and Capt. Jenkin for the Bowling green. He proposed the adoption of the report and statement of accounts.

Mr. A. S. Ellis seconded and this was carried unanimously.

The following office-bearers were elected: President: Mr. J. H. N. Mody; Vice-President: Mr. R. E. Bellies; Hon. Secretary: Mr. R. Bass; Hon. Treasurer: Mr. D. K. Kharras; Capt. of Cricket: Mr. L. E. Lanmer.

Committee: Dr. F. H. Kew, Messrs. A. E. Hall, C. H. Lyson, A. E. Ellis, S. E. Ismail and W. Allen.

CORRESPONDENCE.  
THAT TIGER.

[TO THE EDITOR OF THE "HONGKONG DAILY PRESS"]

Sir,—Please will somebody go and kill that tiger at once! I do not mean the Peak Tiger; he (or she, as it may be, even more so) is calculated to provide copy for papers, and mild exercise for those who go out to search for footprints so far from killing him (or her), long may he (or she) live! No, the animal indicated has no real life; it is the monstrosity with a discordant shriek that we hear so often tied to the end of three good British cheers. Who invented it (if this time undoubtedly) I do not pretend to know, but I would wager it is no British idea. What is the matter with three cheers unadorned? If there is more steam to let off, how can "one cheer more" be bettered except perhaps by "and another" till everybody is satisfied? Any attempt to improve the Union Jack with tinsel trimmings would not be tolerated; why do we put up with this silly "tiger"?

So please kill it, quickly; and throw in the "Hongkong Lion" as well.—Yours, etc.

PLAIN JACK.

TWO LICENCES IN ONE FAMILY.  
MAGISTRATE REFUSES APPLICATION.

A Chinese was charged before Mr. G. N. Orme, yesterday, at the Magistracy, with unlawfully holding a fruit stall in West Point without licence. He said that the stall belonged to his wife, and he was only looking after it for her.

Sergt. James said that he was in the charge room when the defendant was brought in. The defendant did not produce any licence.

The defendant: Oh yes, my wife produced her licence.

Sergt. James: She did not. She only bailed the defendant out, your Worship.

The Magistrate: What is the objection in such cases?

Inspector Caygill: It is to prevent two stalls from being run on one licence. It is a very common dodge. Every time an unlicensed hawk is arrested, someone else turns up and, producing a licence, claims the stall and alleges that he had placed the other in charge during his absence.

After examining the licence of defendant's wife, the Magistrate remarked that it had expired in September.

Inspector Caygill said that it was usual to give hawkers a month in which to renew their licences, as it was impossible for the police to attend to so many licences at the same time.

The Magistrate (to the defendant): You have no right to hawk on your wife's licence. I fine you \$3 or seven days' hard labour.

Later, the defendant appeared in Court and asked the Magistrate to grant him a licence.

The Magistrate: If your wife is agreeable, you can have her licence transferred to you.

The defendant: No, I want a licence for myself.

Inspector Willis objected. He said that one licence was good enough for the two of them.

The Magistrate refused the application.

## THE COMMERCIAL POSITION OF JAPAN.

## NEW VERSION OF ROBBING PETER AND PAYING PAUL.

To those who desire "the commercial" rather than the military progress of Japan, the present situation must be regarded with feelings akin to despair, says the *Japan Chronicle*. The slump after the war is comparatively a small thing. It was bound to come, and was predicted in our columns again and again. But a commercial crisis often has a good effect. It destroys much unsound business, eliminates unprofitable speculation, and puts commerce on a surer and firmer footing. But it can only do these things when the laws of supply and demand are allowed to take their natural course. Instead of this policy being followed, every endeavour is being made to save speculators from the results of their actions, with the consequence that while bankruptcies are not altogether avoided, much unsound business is kept in being. The natural result of a commercial crisis due to speculation is a fall in prices, owing to stocks being thrown on the market by the failure of men who have plunged heavily in the belief that high prices would continue. "Corners" are dissolved owing to the inability of groups holding stocks for a rise to maintain their hold. Profiteers are forced to disgorge, and the excessive profits made in a time of scarcity return to the public in the form of low-priced goods, in some cases temporarily below the cost of production. For a time this has a prejudicial effect on manufacturing industry, causing lack of employment and privation. But when the crisis is past, manufacturing industries revive on a new basis of prices. The cost of production has fallen, and a new era of prosperity dawns until progress is once more interrupted by abnormal conditions, such as war or bad harvests, again encouraging the demon of speculation and cornering, and in due course producing another crisis.

Everything is being done in Japan to avert the consequences that naturally follow such a period of inflation as that recently enjoyed by Japan, and these efforts prevent the cleansing influences that normally accompany a commercial crisis. No effort is spared to maintain prices and protect speculators from the results of their folly. Compromises are made by which, as the result of surrendering some part of the profits made in days of inflation, the greater part may remain in the hands of profiteers, and prices be maintained at a level that will permit the losses now sustained to be recouped in the future. The Government is pressed on all hands for assistance that will enable shaky businesses to stand, and the Government responds by making advances at abnormally low rates of interest, thus laying on the people the burden of assisting the profiteers who have been enriching themselves at their expense. Further to maintain prices the manufacturers restrict output, thus cutting down employment while the cost of living remains unchanged, and, doing this partly by means of the huge reserves amassed by charging the highest possible price for their goods in the days of inflation, and partly by advancing from the Government at a third of the market rate of interest. To prevent accumulations of imported raw material from lowering prices, it is exported in great quantities abroad, often at a loss, so that other countries obtain the advantage which would otherwise accrue to the people of this country. Such are the methods by which speculators in times of scarcity are saved from the consequences of their incapacity for long views and profiteers are left to plunder the people. It is not only a foolish and a dangerous policy, but it is a policy that in the end must spell ruin for Japanese industries, and destroy Japan's power of competition in world-markets.

During the war Japan had an advantage that comes seldom in the life-time of a nation. In the early stages of the war, with Japan a nominal rather than a real participant, she was in a position to supply India, Australasia, and the South Seas with goods that had previously been obtained from Europe. The entry of America into the war left her the only great commercial nation whose production was comparatively unaffected by war conditions. She had the opportunity of establishing herself in markets where her products had not previously been seen, so that her exports to a distant country like the United Kingdom for the first time exceeded her imports from that country. The opportunity was quickly seized. Goods were exported that failed to reach the standard of sample-lamp glasses that broke on being handled, matches that would not strike, shirts with buttons pasted on, and so forth. Of course it would be absurd to suggest that all Japan's exports during the war were of this calibre, but the tricks of traders and the inferior qualities of goods put on the market were sufficiently numerous to determine her temporary customers to go back to their former suppliers when circumstances permitted. A prejudice was aroused against Japanese goods, due to the evil practices of a section of Japanese manufacturers, that has done great harm to Japan's commerce. Japan must live down the discredit in which she has been involved by certain of her traders. It is at this moment, however, that the recognised commercial and manufacturing leaders of the country, backed up by the Government, are employing all their efforts in maintaining prices. In other words, Japan is placing a heavy handicap on her goods at the moment when the industry of the former belligerent nations is reviving and they are seeking to recover the markets lost during the war. All those countries are burdened by heavy debt, and taxation due to the war, which might be expected to give Japan further advantage. What does Japan do but sacrifice that advantage also by entering upon a course of military aggression in Siberia and an expansion of her army and navy that threaten to involve her in a proportionately equal indebtedness. Heavier taxation is required to meet increased expenditure, and this again has the effect of forcing up the cost of production.

(Continued at foot of next column).

## INDIAN GUNNER IN TROUBLE.

## IMPORTING BRANDY WITHOUT PERMIT.

Gunner Milka Singh, of the H.K. & S. R.G.A., was charged before Mr. A. Dyer Ball, yesterday, with unlawfully bringing into the Colony three bottles of brandy without a permit.

Revenue Officer Kelly, who prosecuted, said that the defendant was seen by a Revenue Officer landing with the bottles hidden under his loin cloth. When he was questioned, the defendant said that he bought the brandy from the boatwain of the *S.S. Hwang*. He did not know that a permit was required to land them. To prove his statement, the defendant took the Revenue Officer on board the *Hwang*, but the boatwain was nowhere to be found. However, the defendant took the Revenue Officer to the place where the boatwain kept the brandy, and there 17 other bottles of liquor were discovered. These were brought ashore.

The defendant's officer, who was present in Court, said that when questioned defendant gave an entirely different story. He said that seven bottles of brandy were given to him by a Chinese. As the Chinese was handing three bottles to the defendant, the Revenue Officer came up, and putting the other four bottles on the ground, the Chinese ran away, and the Revenue Officer arrested the defendant. The defendant, said the officer, had had a very good record during his four years' service.

Revenue Officer Kelly said that he did not want to press the charge against the defendant, as he had given every assistance in his power to trace the other bottles of liquor.

The Magistrate imposed a fine of \$20, and ordered the confiscation of the liquor found in the defendant's possession.

Revenue Officer Kelly applied for the confiscation also of four bottles of "square" gin, seven bottles of brandy, three bottles of whisky, and two bottles of another brand of gin which were found on board the ship.

The Magistrate granted the application.

## BANISHEE WHO LOOKED SILLY.

## TO BE KEPT UNDER OBSERVATION.

Before Mr. G. N. Orme at the Magistracy, yesterday, Inspector Caygill of Yamnati Police Station charged a Chinese with unlawfully returning to the Colony after having been banished for a period of ten years on September 23rd last.

The defendant was seen by a Chinese detective wandering aimlessly in Shanghai Street on Thursday, and was taken into custody. When asked to plead, the defendant admitted that he was a banishee, and said that he came back to Hongkong because he could not get work in the country. The Inspector said that the defendant appeared to him to be a bit silly.

The Magistrate: Yes, he looks a bit unbalanced. I will remand him for a week. In the meantime he is to undergo observation in the jail.

The only result of the policy now being pursued, both in Government and commercial circles, must be to disorganise Japan's export trade and destroy her ability to compete in world markets. Already Japan has acquired the reputation of being the most expensive country in the world to live in—a country where not only is the cost of living high but the value obtained inferior. The whole policy now being pursued tends to perpetuate these conditions. We hear of quotations from various places overseas which show that double the price is quoted for Japanese commodities compared with those asked for the same or even superior qualities of goods from Europe. This may be satisfactory to European merchants and manufacturers; it can scarcely be satisfactory to those of Japan. Nor is the Japanese consumer allowed to benefit by the lower cost of commodities elsewhere. To protect Japanese industries and avert healthy competition, a ridiculously high tariff is imposed, which again has the effect of forcing up prices and checking Japan's ability to compete even in those articles where she has natural advantages and ability. That advantage which she was temporarily given by the war threatens to prove the ruin of the country. No attempt whatever is made to bring down prices. On the contrary, the effect is all the other way. Money is lent manufacturers that they may be able to hold stocks or export them. Coal-owners are encouraged in a policy of starving industry that prices may not decline. Manufacturers are permitted without a protest to restrict output, despite the crying need for commodities. And then the Government is surprised at the growth of an underground movement which declares that capitalism is the enemy. It seems as if Japan for the moment is without a statement of vision or an economist of ability. Criticisms are made of this or that detail of Government policy or the attitude of economic circles, and there is repeated attack on currency inflation—a very important factor in the rise of prices. But the general policy of maintaining prices in the interest of capitalists meets with little if any attention, nor is the ultimate effect of such a policy as militating against Japan's competition in world markets perceived by those who write on economics. The situation is serious, and it becomes more serious day by day. Satisfaction is being expressed in some quarters that exports are again exceeding imports, but when it is realised that the falling off in imports means a reduction of the inflow of raw materials, and that some part of the rise in exports is due to the re-export of stocks that prices may be maintained, there is little hope to be derived from this source. Unless free play is given to the economic forces at work, and efforts to bolster up unsound business cease or become ineffectual, the future of Japan's trade would appear to be exceedingly gloomy.

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## CHINA'S RUSSIAN DECREE: PROTEST FROM GENERAL WRANGEL'S GOVERNMENT.

## BOLSHEVIK GOLD FLOOD: AMERICAN POLICE UNEASY.

## NEW FRENCH LOAN: SATISFACTORY PUBLIC RESPONSE.

### LATEST CABLES.

#### PRESIDENT WILSON'S APPEAL.

#### DENUNCIATION OF OPPONENTS OF TREATY.

WASHINGTON, October 8th.  
President Wilson's appeal in favour of the League of Nations, while not mentioning the candidates by name, denounces those who have been the public in regard to the Peace Treaty and the growth and impudent audacity of those attempting to invent an Americanism which has no foundations whatever in any authentic traditions of the American Government.

#### PREPARING FOR THE FRAY.

London, October 8th.  
In view of the Presidential election on November 2nd, both parties in the United States are preparing a supreme effort. The betting odds are at present stated largely to be in favour of Senator Harding.

#### FRENCH FINANCES.

#### GOOD PROSPECTS OF NEW LOAN.

London, October 8th.  
A Havas message says:—Substantial subscriptions are already pouring in into the banks for the new national loan which is to open at the end of this month and promises to be an unqualified success. Taxes are still coming in most satisfactorily, and the financial situation is improving every day, although foreign exchange remains high.

#### RUSSIAN GOLD.

#### LARGE QUANTITY ARRIVES IN AMERICA.

WASHINGTON, October 8th.  
The Department of Justice has ordered an enquiry into the source of the recent influx of Russian gold. It is believed that this is possibly a portion of the Bolshevik propaganda fund in the United States. The gold was shipped overseas in payment of the Russian Government purchases of American war supplies in France, particularly locomotives.

#### FRENCH SURGERY.

#### PROGRESS DURING WAR.

PARIS, October 8th.  
At the Surgery Congress, now sitting in Paris, the President, the Belgian surgeon Dr. Le Page, emphasized the striking progress and remarkable discoveries which the French surgical art had made during the war.

#### MEXICAN OIL FIELDS.

#### A BRITISH CONCESSION SECURED.

New York, October 8th.  
A message from Mexico City says a British subject, Mr. Alfred Mackenzie, has been granted a three years' concession to exploit all oil lands in Lower California between San Tomas and Punta de Canas. The newspapers declare that the British Government is backing Mr. Mackenzie with a view to dominating the petroleum industry in Lower California. It is also reported that Japan will control the same industry in Sonora.

#### NOT ENCROACHING UPON

#### AMERICAN RIGHTS.

New York, October 8th.  
A message from Mexico City says that Mr. Mackenzie's concessions do not encroach upon American rights. It appears that the United States Corporation possesses twice the amount of oil lands conceded to the British in Lower California.

### EARLIER CABLES.

#### REVOLUTIONARY STRIKE IN PORTUGAL.

#### LISBON AND OTHER BIG TOWNS INVOLVED.

MADRID, October 8th.  
A general strike, apparently revolutionary in character, has broken out throughout Portugal.

#### GENERAL STRIKE.

MADRID, October 7th.  
Travellers from Portugal confirm the report that a general strike has broken out throughout the country. Government officials declare that it is a revolutionary movement.

Postal, telegraph and telephone employees, naval reserves and railwaymen dockers have all ceased work, while reports from Vigo state that Lisbon, Oporto and all other big towns in Portugal are involved.

#### FORTY MILLION DEAL.

New York, October 8th.  
Messrs. Swift & Company have sold forty millions dollars worth of forty-year notes to Chicago bankers.

## RUSSO-POLISH ARMISTICE. FIGHTING CEASED YESTERDAY.

WARSAW, October 8th.  
It is reported from Riga that an armistice was signed last night, agreeing that hostilities should cease on October 8th. "A GREAT POLISH TRIUMPH."

London, October 7th.  
It is reported that the signature of the Russo-Polish armistice, which was associated with a preliminary peace, signifies a great Polish triumph. One account declares that M. Dombrowski, the Chairman of the Polish Delegation at Riga, has been dictating terms with almost breathless rapidity. His points, as far as he submits them, are accepted by the Soviet Delegation, headed by M. Joffe. This bird's-eye view of the proceedings tallies with recent reports from Moscow that the Soviet had instructed M. Joffe to accept any terms, however harsh.

It is stated that the terms include Russia's recognition of the Polish claim for substantial participation in the Russian gold reserve, although the amount has not been fixed.

### POLAND'S NEW FRONTIER.

London, October 8th.  
The Polish frontier has been arranged. It starts slightly to the east of Drinsk, runs south to Molodetchno and thence east to Baranowice along the Saray-Rovno Railway, and then south to Mibruze. The Russians have deleted the cable references as regards East Galicia, White Russia, and the Ukraine. The new frontier, as compared with Russian proposals, gives Poland an additional 150,000 square kilometres of territory, populated by 4,500,000 people. The armistice is for 25 days, breakable on 36 hours' notice, while it is stated in sub-clauses that the armistice is to prevent the Reds carrying out the threatened transfer of troops to crush General Wrangel. Meanwhile, it is confirmed that the Red armies are fast collapsing, and a process of self-demobilisation has set in over the whole of the northern front, all White Russia, the Smolensk area being overrun with fleeing deserters.

### HOME RULE FOR IRELAND.

### PREMIER'S REPLY TO LIBERALS.

### LONDON, October 7th.

What amounts to a reply to Mr. Asquith's Dominion Home Rule suggestions for Ireland is contained in an interview with Mr. Lloyd George by Mr. Harold Spender, published in the "Lloyd George Liberal Magazine."

The Premier pointed out that unless the Asquith Liberals intend to give Ireland full control of military and naval affairs their proposal comes to be Dominion Home Rule in the sense in which that phrase is accepted throughout the Empire, and the term becomes a form of deception. As regards the feasibility of giving Ireland complete control of her own taxation, the Premier declared that the giving of control would amount to Ireland being left off her share of the War Debt, which would mean that the English working man might pay 8/- a pound for tobacco, whilst the Irish working man would pay only 6/-.

The Premier queried whether the British people would agree that Irishmen should have a special privilege with regard to taxation resulting from the war, but if someone entitled to speak on behalf of Ireland stated that they were prepared to take a fair share of Ireland's obligations, that would be a different matter. "But if we are told 'Give us the Customs, Excise and Income-tax' and we are to receive no guarantee of any kind in return, then you place Britain in an impossible financial position and Ireland will become a privileged country. We should still remain responsible for her defence to posterity and yet she no longer pays cost or lot." The Premier continued: "We cannot cut the painter. The Dominion policy, as now put forward, would leave us in a terrible position." The Premier pointed out that under the Liberal policy Ulster would have to be most seriously coerced. He did not believe the Liberals really imagined they could carry Dominion Home Rule even if they had a majority in the House of Commons.

### OUTLOOK IN ARMENIA.

### TURKS' TERRIBLE THREAT.

### LONDON, October 7th.

The Times correspondent at Constantinople says the situation on the Armenian border is unquestionably serious. The Turks have captured Gorykams and Boghanli and the Armenians are being simultaneously attacked on the eastern border with a view to stopping reinforcements going westwards.

A nationalist communiqué from Trebizond declares that the march on Batum has been abandoned and troops, consisting of Turkish regulars who are advancing in three columns, intend to "wipe out" Armenia within a month so as to open the road to Azerbaijan. The Armenians have protested to President Wilson and also, it is believed, to the Entente.

### SEAPLANE DIVES INTO A

### LAKE.

### AVIATOR KILLED.

### CHICAGO, October 7th.

A seaplane now-dived into a lake from 500 feet, at a speed of 100 miles per hour. The Pilot Lieutenant Dedett, was drowned, in spite of the plucky efforts of his companion, Lieutenant-Bachelor, to rescue him.

### SITUATION IN MESOPOTAMIA.

### WOMEN AND CHILDREN SAFE.

### LONDON, October 8th.

A War Office communiqué announces that with the exception of a few who are sick, all women and children from Kerind have reached Bagdad. General Ironside has arrived at Kerzin to take over the command of the forces in North West Persia.

## FAR EASTERN CABLE NEWS.

### (THROUGH RUSSIAN AGENCY.)

## GENERAL WRANGEL'S PROTEST AGAINST CHINA'S DECREE.

PARIS, October 8th.  
M. Deglers, on behalf of the South Russian Government, has telegraphed to the Chinese Government protesting against the refusal to recognise the Russian Legation and Consulate and pointing out that General Wrangel's Government succeeds the temporary Government of General Denikin and Admiral Kolchak which was previously represented in China by diplomatic agents. He declares that the Chinese decree infringes upon the rights and privileges of the Russians which are guaranteed by Sino-Russian treaties and conventions, and concludes that Russia will not recognise any acts contrary to these treaties and conventions, holding China responsible for any damage or loss incurred.

### CHINESE IN LONDON.

LONDON, October 8th.  
A recent police court proceeding against a Chinese restaurant-keeper for allowing loose women to frequent his premises has led some newspapers to devote space to the gaming vice which is alleged to be rampant in Limehouse, where some two thousand Chinese, other Asiatics and a number of coloured people reside. It is admitted that a number of Chinese have married English women and live decently, but it is stated that some unmarried Chinese and coloured people are attracted to the quarter by the number of loose women with deplorable results. The Chinese authorities in London are co-operating with the police in an effort to effect reform. Several restaurants have been closed and gaming houses raided, the keepers being deported.

### THE CANTON CRISIS.

### AN OFFER OF \$1,500,000 TO THE KWANGSI LEADERS.

It was confidently expected yesterday that by noon Tachun Mu Yung-hsien would have indicated that he was prepared to leave Canton at once—but no news to this effect came to hand.

This feeling of confidence in a peaceful settlement followed upon the news that the Canton Citizens' Guild, which is composed principally of members of the old gentry, had offered \$1,500,000 to the Kwangsi military leaders if they would surrender and leave Canton. It will be remembered that it was said at first that a larger sum than \$500,000 was quite one of the questions; but the Canton Times appears to explain the change of attitude by the following paragraph:—"To fully understand the inner arrangements, according to a leading Cantonese, it may be pointed out that some Cantonese have advanced money to the Kwangsi for military purposes; that, in order that the transaction may not be a total loss, some Cantonese themselves have fixed up matters with the committee to enable Mu Yung-hsien to procure cash to partly refund the few Cantonese friendly to him."

Mu, however, is asking for \$2,000,000. A financial panic among native banks in Canton, as a consequence of the present crisis, is regarded as not unlikely. Business on any considerable scale has been generally suspended in Canton for a fortnight or more, and the "traffic" is still suspended. "Crucially," labour crisis is developing and this is certain to be accentuated by a shortage of food supplies unless a speedy change comes over the situation.

Yen Chun-huen, Chairman of the Administrative Council, is now figuring in the role of a mediator, acting jointly with Admiral Lin Yagui. They have made a proposal to the Cantonese Generals for a Peace Conference. The representatives of the two parties having power to sign whatever terms may finally be agreed upon. Canton, we fear, can hardly afford to wait for the agreement. Peace Conferences in China are long-drawn-out affairs. It has not three years since the North and the South began conferring, about a peace settlement.

Admiral Tang Ting-kwang, whom the citizens have chosen to succeed Tachun Mu, intended yesterday to announce his assumption of the office with headquarters at the Military Government Building, near the Cement Works at Honan.

## RECENT LOSS ON THE "SHINYO MARU."

## MISSING HANDBAG, MINUS VALU- ABLES, DUMPED IN THE SEA.

The Japan Gazette of the 27th inst. says:—On the 21st instant the Water Police of Yokohama were informed that two passengers on the Shinyo Maru en route to San Francisco, Mr. and Mrs. Ebyergren, from Batavia, had lost from their cabin a handbag containing a necklace, diamond brooch, lady's gold watch and chain, a letter of credit for a considerable sum, and two passports.

Inquiries were made by the Police, but up to the time of the Ship's sailing no clue to the whereabouts of the bag was obtainable. Yesterday the bag was picked up off the Pier where the Shinyo Maru had moored. The bag, however, contained only the passports and the letter of credit, the other articles having evidently been taken by someone who realised that the possession of the letter of credit and the passports would lead to identification. Through Mr. Ebyergren the Consul for the Netherlands Consulate-General in San Francisco asking him to inform Mr. and Mrs. Ebyergren of the recovery of the bag and the letter of credit.

## TRAGEDY AT HARBIN. AN UNEAPPY CASE.

### ENGLISHMAN INVOLVED.

The Harbin correspondent of the Japan Chronicle, writing on August 24th, says:—On June 3rd last—the King's Birthday—a sensational tragedy took place here, one of the principals being an Englishman, holding a prominent position locally. The scene of the tragedy was the well-known Orient Hotel and the hour four o'clock in the afternoon, so naturally a great sensation was created locally as soon as the affair became public property. The writer, owing to the conflicting versions of what had taken place, and pending the *prover veritas*, by the Russian judicial authorities, has up till now refrained from making public the details of this distressing affair. The two principals were Mr. A. E. Smith, local manager of Jardine, Matheson & Co., and Marusa Vagina, a young and beautiful Russian dancer. The latter, who is said to have been on intimate terms with Mr. Smith for two years past, went to the Tsingtau Convent on his departure for home leave some months ago, in order that finishing touches might be given to her education and that she might acquire foreign languages. Towards the end of May, Miss Vagina returned to Harbin. She had learned from others that Mr. Smith had married suddenly, when passing through Canada, and was bringing his wife back with him. This upset her terribly. She told her friends that if Mr. Smith did not return to her she would kill him. The girl was quite serious in her statements and had evidently made up her mind to carry out her threat, buying a revolver.

Upon the arrival of Mr. and Mrs. Smith at Changchun, a friend advised them of Miss Vagina's presence in Harbin and of her threats, so that husband and wife arrived at Harbin on different trains. As soon as the Russian dancer found out that Mr. Smith had actually returned, she sent him a letter by hand, asking him to go and see her at once and that in the event of his not doing so she would come down to his office. This was on June 2nd, the King's Birthday, so that Mr. Smith, after attending the reception held at the British Consulate, decided to visit Miss Vagina at the Orient Hotel where she was staying. Not wishing to go alone, he induced a friend to accompany him. The two men went to Miss Vagina's room, but only Mr. Smith entered, for the girl said she and something private to say to him personally. The other remained outside in the corridor awaiting his friend.

### WHAT TOOK PLACE AT THE HOTEL.

What actually took place in the hotel room can only be surmised. Miss Vagina locked the door as soon as Mr. Smith entered the room, and when it was opened again by Mr. Smith the girl was lying dead on the floor. According to the evidence given in the Russian *prover veritas*, there was a heated discussion in the room and some little time afterwards a revolver was heard. People living in the hotel, hearing this, rushed to see what was the matter. Three or four shots were heard, and eventually the door was unlocked by Mr. Smith himself. The excitement was intense when those present entered the room and saw the lifeless body of the girl, who, Mr. Smith said, had shot herself.

The police were immediately summoned and the British Consul telephoned for the Russian Consul, who was very hostile towards the two Englishmen, but they refrained from British jurisdiction. Mr. Sly, the British Consul, was soon on the scene, for the Consulate is not far from the Orient Hotel. His action in the matter has been severely criticised by the Russians, as he is said to have omitted to search Mr. Smith. When the Russian official arrived, they were informed by Mr. Sly that as Mr. Smith was a British subject, he would be responsible for him, thereupon withdrawing with the two Englishmen. Pending the investigation into the affair by the Russian authorities, the British Consulate has taken no further overt action except in instructing Mr. Hill, the Vice-Consul, to attend the Russian hearing of the case. Unfortunately, the finding of the Russian inquiry was only handed Mr. Sly on the day of his departure for home on sick leave.

The Russian Court procedure in cases like this closely resembles the French. The matter is handed over to the Juge d'Instruction, who holds a *prover veritas*; the Procureur or Public Prosecutor examining all the witnesses. The time occupied in occupying over a month and a half. This is due to the fact that Russian law demands that the investigation be very thorough, and that the Procureur has many other cases as well to occupy his attention. The most important witnesses were the three doctors, whom the Court themselves chose with much discretion and care, and the arms expert. The three doctors were Dr. Sokoloff, the leading surgeon in Harbin, Dr. Baron Budberg, who as prison doctor has much experience in dealing with wounds caused by firearms, and Dr. Chen, who has an English diploma. The arms expert, too, is a man of personal experience and of personal integrity. It is mainly upon the evidence of these gentlemen that the Public Prosecutor bases his conclusions, which he furnishes in writing to the Russian Consul and which has been handed by the latter to the British Consul, without comment, together with the written and signed statements of all the witnesses examined. I have seen this document, which is very clear and concise.

According to the medical evidence in the *prover veritas* the bullet that penetrated the girl's heart could not have been self-inflicted. The arms expert gives it as his opinion that all the bullets spent were fired from the revolver found by the side of the girl, so that only that revolver, a Browning which the girl had herself bought, played any role in the enacted drama. From the evidence given it is assumed that Marusa Vagina had the conviction that her former lover, after seeing her again, would return to her. To receive him she put on her best gown, and there were fresh flowers on the table. It is further assumed that Mr. Smith's cool and calm attitude when they were brought face to face unnerved and excited the girl. She was not prepared to hear from him that all was now over between them. According to witnesses living in the adjacent room, a loud alar was heard, and when the door was opened Mr. Smith had red marks on one of his cheeks. Miss Vagina who probably had the revolver on her person, is believed to have fired at Smith, who, dodging the bullet, then tried to close with her and get away the pistol. From the location of the spent bullets which it is supposed that the two struggled across the room before Mr. Smith was able to wrench the revolver from the girl's hand, and as one bullet was found lodged in the ceiling it appears that Mr. Smith, by firmly grasping her wrist, caused the shoe to be diverted perpendicularly. The *prover veritas* comes to the conclusion that Mr. Smith, with the last bullet fired, shot at the girl, and as fate would have it, killed her instantly. The revolver was found at her left side, and the doctor's evidence is to the effect that it was impossible for her to have placed it there herself.

Such are the bare details of this drama which terminated so tragically, and the sequel of which is yet to be played. In practically every other city in the world, justice by this time would have taken its course, but Harbin is uniquely situated. All foreigners enjoy extra-territoriality, and in this case persons of two different nationalities are involved. While the Russians have locally qualified law courts the British have none, nor does the smallness of the Harbin community demand such appointments. The British Consul, Mr. Porter, has thus taken the proper course by sending to the British Public Prosecutor at Shanghai all the documents handed him by the Russian Consul. Owing to their voluminous nature, their translation from Russian to English has taken some considerable time. Hence another delay has been unavoidable. The matter, therefore, now rests with the British Public Prosecutor, to decide what action should be taken. Needless to say, much interest has been aroused in the affair, which is likely to prove a *casse cellera* in the Far East.

## PACIFIC FREIGHT CONFERENCE.

### THE NEGOTIATIONS IN JAPAN.

The much-discussed Pacific Freight Conference will be a reality from November 1st, says the Japan Advertiser, a uniform tariff under the new arrangement coming into operation from that date.

Negotiations for the establishment of the freight conference have been in progress at Kobe between Japanese, American, and British shipowners since September 7th. For a time difficult problems arose as to the proposal to establish the headquarters of the freight conference at Kobe, instead of at Yokohama, as originally proposed, and also regarding the forward shipment contracts made previous to the new arrangement and as to the question whether the Japanese tramp owners should be urged to join the conference. All these questions, however, have now been settled.

The headquarters of the Freight Conference are to be established at Yokohama, as originally proposed. The majority of the shipping companies concerned, however, have their principal offices in Kobe, and it is stipulated that if it is deemed advisable to transfer the headquarters to Kobe, the matter will be decided by a general meeting of all the shipping companies affiliated in the Conference.

As to the second question whether the Japanese tramp owners should be urged to join the new freight arrangement, it is agreed that though their adhesion is desirable, no further delay in the carrying out of the new arrangement is to be desired, and, therefore, the demand that they should be excluded should be agreed to. The fact is that the Japanese tramp owners, who are known as "shagashen" companies, have been urging that they should not be bound by the proposed Freight Conference.

Forward freight contracts already made are to remain valid, though particulars of the contracts should be reported to the headquarters of the Freight Conference.

### N.Y.K. RATES TEMPORARY.

As a temporary arrangement until the date of the operation of the conventional freight tariff, the steamship companies have agreed to adopt the present rates of the Nippon Yusen Kaisha. Under the new tariff freight rates are to be raised in widely varying degrees, while the rate on some goods is left unchanged. For instance there will be no change in the rate on general cargo, which is \$10, and in another case the rate is to be raised from \$6 to \$7. Generally speaking, freight rates will be raised, it is said, by an average of about 30 per cent. The object of the new arrangement, however, is not so much to raise freight rates as to maintain a unified freight tariff.

The shipping companies signatory to the Freight Conference number 11, comprising: The Nippon Yusen Kaisha, Oka Shoen Kaisha, Toyo Kisen Kaisha, Canadian Pacific Ocean Steamship Company, China Mail Steamship Company, China Pacific Steamship Company, Struthers and Dixon Company, Admiral Line, American Express Company, Pacific Mail Steamship Company, and the Waterhouse Company. Of these concerns, the three subsidised Japanese companies must obtain permission of the Government to adhere to the freight tariff adopted by the Pacific Freight Conference, but it is understood that the necessary permit will be given in due course.

any role in the enacted drama. From the evidence given it is assumed that Marusa Vagina had the conviction that her former lover, after seeing her again, would return to her. To receive him she put on her best gown, and there were fresh flowers on the table. It is further assumed that Mr. Smith's cool and calm attitude when they were brought face to face unnerved and excited the girl. She was not prepared to hear from him that all was now over between them. According to witnesses living in the adjacent room, a loud alar was heard, and when the door was opened Mr. Smith had red marks on one of his cheeks. Miss Vagina who probably had the revolver on her person, is believed to have fired at Smith, who, dodging the bullet, then tried to close with her and get away the pistol. From the location of the spent bullets which it is supposed that the two struggled across the room before Mr. Smith was able to wrench the revolver from the girl's hand, and as one bullet was found lodged in the ceiling it appears that Mr. Smith, by firmly grasping her wrist, caused the shoe to be diverted perpendicularly. The *prover veritas* comes to the conclusion that Mr. Smith, with the last bullet fired, shot at the girl, and as fate would have it, killed her instantly. The revolver was found at her left side, and the doctor's evidence is to the effect that it was impossible for her to have placed it there herself.

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## HOMES OF THE FAMOUS. HOW LONDON USES THEM. MEMORIAL OBELISK AS POSTER HOARDING.

In 1882—as the stone records—the tomb of John Bunyan in Bunhill Fields was restored by public subscription under the presidency of the Earl of Shaftesbury. There is need of a new Shaftesbury in the field, for the recumbent effigy of the notorious enthusiast—as the shocked and outraged churchmen of the seventeenth century called him—is defaced, in the most literal sense of the word. The features have been more than obliterated. In place of eyes, nose, and mouth there is a gaping yellow wound in the smoke-blackened stone. It is fortunate that the inscription is well preserved, otherwise the memorial would be unrecognizable.

An American visitor, who spent some little time in seeking out the more famous tombs in the old Nonconformist cemetery said that he judged Bunyan's own people would have set more store on the writer of "Pilgrim's Progress" than to let his effigy fall into decay. He disturbed a choir of London sparrows which had settled upon the mutilated figure. "But isn't William Blake buried here, too?" he asked.

It is believed so, replied the cautious Londoner, "but the exact spot is as hopelessly undecipherable now as the place where the bones of Moses himself lie."

### SOME FAMOUS REMAINS.

It is a refreshing contrast to find that the tombs of other celebrities, who rest in Bunhill Fields are in an excellent state of repair. They lack effigies recumbent or upright, but the lettering of the names has been kept clear and distinct. Hence one can identify the redoubtable Isaac Watts, who has ceased from his bee-like busyness and lies as still as his own slumber; the old Roundhead General, Fleetwood, who was Cromwell's son-in-law; and Susannah Wesley, a tomb which keeps the ashes of several of the Protector's descendants has been carefully tended, and was repaired a few years ago by the City Corporation.

The American visitor was disappointed that there is so little of the storied urn and animated bust in Bunhill Fields. The winged cherubs of the more pompous styles of graveyard architecture have not lighted here. Neither the tetrifal angels nor the stone cornucopia were in keeping with the simple faith of these early Nonconformists. But he was puzzled to account for the fewness of epitaphs. The only inscription that was at all out of the common had a medical rather than a poetical interest. It read:

Here Lyes Dame Mary Page, relict of Sir Gregory Page, Bart. She departed this life March 11th, 1729, in the 68th year of her age. In 67 months she was Tapped 63 times. Had taken away 240 gallons of water without ever repining at her case, or ever fearing the operation.

**JOHN WILKES' MEMORIAL.** The case of Bunyan's effigy is not the only one which is expressive of an age grown forgetful of the great men of the past. In Ludgate-circus there is an obelisk which the people, who hurry across the traffic-thronged thoroughfare scarcely notice at all. It is a seedy and shabby obelisk. It has all the stains, with none of the dignity of age, and its top is blunted, so that it has become a broken and useless needle.

The Ministry of Munitions Auction Sales are announced such base uses. Yet this obelisk was raised as a memorial to a man whom Londoners, less than a century and a half ago idolized as the champion of popular liberty. The Middlesex Election is still drawn upon by political orators, but a grateful city's memorial to John Wilkes is hidden under a display of sales bills. The obelisk to the worthy Robert Waltham (died 1833), another Lord Mayor of London, which also stands in Ludgate-circus, is similarly employed as a poster-display stand. "Help Westminster Abbey," it appeals on one side. "Join your County Territorial Regiment," it enjoins on the other.

## THE RUSSIAN CONCESSION AT TIENTSIN.

### FOREIGN RATEPAYERS PROTEST AGAINST CHINESE ACTION.

The *Peking and Tientsin Times* understands that the Consular Body recently considered and took action upon a protest formally raised by the Municipal Council to the following effect:—

"The Council having been verbally informed by the Representative of the Russian Consulate at Tientsin of the intention of the Chinese Government, as verbally intimated to him by Mr. Huang, the local Chinese Commissioner for Foreign Affairs, to take under their own administration and jurisdiction the Russian Concession and Municipal Affairs beginning from to-morrow, September 25th, at noon, hereby emphatically protests before the Consular Body against the following:—

(1.)—The Council protests against the administration and jurisdiction of the Russian Concession being at all taken over by the Chinese authorities.  
(2.)—Against the contemplated procedure of the Chinese authorities amounting to seizure of the Concession in spite of the offer of the Consul to effect the formal handing over of the Concession on receipt of the corresponding instructions from the Russian Legation in Peking.  
(3.)—Against the precipitated act of seizure of the Russian Concession not actually warranted by circumstances, and without timely notification on account of which action the foreign ratepayers were deprived of the possibility of safeguarding their interests, forming over 50 per cent. of votes, not taking into consideration those of Russian and Chinese electors.

The Council resolved to submit this protest through the Russian Consul at the meeting of the local Consular Body.

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| SHANGHAI & HAIKOW        | "KAIKONG"   | On 10th Oct. 9 A.M.  |
| SHANGHAI & FUKUOKA       | "HANYANG"   | On 11th Oct. Noon.   |
| SWATOW & FUKUOKA         | "CHINCHANG" | On 11th Oct. Noon.   |
| AMOI, SHANGHAI & FUKUOKA | "SHANTUNG"  | On 12th Oct. 10 A.M. |
| SWATOW & FUKUOKA         | "SHANTUNG"  | On 12th Oct. 4 P.M.  |
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| "KASIGAR" | 6,900 | 22nd Oct.             | Marseilles, London & Antwerp |
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| "BOMALI"  | 6,713 | 10th Dec.             | do.                          |
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 Office up to Noon on the day previous to sailing.

## NOTICE TO CONSIGNEES.

Consignees are reminded of the necessity to apply to the Company's Agents  
 regarding arrival of consignments expected of which they have received documents or  
 advice.  
 Any damaged packages must be left in the Godowns for examination by the  
 Consignees and the Company's Surveyors Messrs. GORDON & DOUGLAS at 10 A.M.  
 on MONDAYS and THURSDAYS. All claims must be presented within ten days  
 of the Steamer's arrival here, after which date they cannot be recognized. No claims  
 will be admitted after the goods have left the Godown.

For Further Information, Passage Fares, Freight, Handbooks, etc., apply to  
**MACKINNON, MACKENZIE & CO.**  
 Agents.  
 22, Des Voeux Road Central, HONGKONG

O. S. K.  
OSAKA SHOSEN KAISHA.

SAILINGS FROM HONGKONG SUBJECT TO ALTERATION.

LONDON, ANTWERP, ROTTERDAM &amp; HAMBURG—Monthly direct

service via Singapore and Port Said.

BUENOS AIRES, RIO DE JANEIRO, SANTOS, MAURITIUS,

DURBAN &amp; CAPE TOWN via SINGAPORE.

"CANADA MARU" (Taking Passengers) Tuesday, 2nd Nov.

BOMBAY &amp; COLOMBO—Regular fortnightly service via Singapore.

"BURMA MARU" ... Saturday, 16th Oct.

"KASADO MARU" ... Saturday, 20th Oct.

SAIGON, BANGKOK &amp; SINGAPORE—Regular monthly service.

"SHISEN MARU" ... Monday, 1st Nov.

SYDNEY &amp; MELBOURNE—Monthly service taking cargo to New Zealand and

Pacific Islands.

VICTORIA, VANCOUVER, SEATTLE &amp; TACOMA

via Manila and Shanghai—Regular fortnightly service touching at intermediate

ports in Japan and taking cargo to OVERLAND POINTS U.S. in connection with

Chicago Milwaukee and St. Paul Railway.

"ARIZONA MARU" (Taking Passengers) Tuesday, 12th Oct.

"MANILA MARU" ... Friday, 16th Oct.

NEW YORK—Regular monthly service via Japan Ports, San Francisco, Panama and

Cunbar Ports.

"HAGUE MARU" ... Sunday, 7th Nov.

NEW ORLEANS LINE "SUMATRA MARU" ... Beginning of Dec.

JAPAN PORTS—Mojji, Kobe, Yokkaichi &amp; Yokohama.

"HAYANA MARU" ... Monday, 25th Oct.

"Omit Yokkaichi, Call Shanghai."

KEELUNG via SWATOW &amp; AMOI—These steamers have excellent accommoda-

tion for 1st and 2nd class saloon passengers and will arrive and depart from the O.S.K.

wharf near the Harbour Office.

"KAIJO MARU" ... Sunday, 10th Oct.

"AMAKUSA MARU" ... Sunday, 17th Oct.

TAKAO via SWATOW &amp; AMOI.

"BOSHU MARU" ... Saturday, 16th Oct.

For sailing dates and further particulars please apply to—

Tel. Nos. 744 &amp; 745.

Y. YASUDA, Manager,  
No. 1, Queen's Building.

## AUSTRALIAN ORIENTAL LINE.

HONGKONG TO PHILIPPINES AND AUSTRALIAN PORTS.

Steamer Arr. Hongkong from Australia Dep. Hongkong for Australia

"TAIWAN" 16th Oct. 21st Oct., 4 P.M.

SAILING SUBJECT TO ALTERATION.

This Steamer is fitted with Refrigerating Machinery, ensuring a plentiful supply

of Ice, Fresh Provisions, etc., and have superior accommodation with Electric Light

throughout and Electric Fans in the State-Rooms. A duly qualified Doctor is carried.

Reduced Fare. Cargo booked through to all Australian, New Zealand &amp; Tasmanian Ports.

For Freight and passage apply to— BUTTERFIELD &amp; SWIRE, Agents. [41]

T. K. K.  
TOYO KISEN KAISHA

HONGKONG TO SAN FRANCISCO

via SHANGHAI, THE INLAND SEA, JAPAN &amp; HONOLULU.

"THE PATHWAY OF THE SUN."

| STEAMERS     | TONS   | LEAVE HONGKONG |
|--------------|--------|----------------|
| SHIRAKA MARU | 20,000 | Oct. 12th.     |
| SHIRAKA MARU | 20,000 | Oct. 28th.     |
| SHIRAKA MARU | 20,000 | Nov. 13th.     |
| SHIRAKA MARU | 20,000 | Nov. 29th.     |
| SHIRAKA MARU | 20,000 | Dec. 14th.     |

## SOUTH AMERICAN LINE

HONGKONG TO VALPARAISO

via JAPAN, HONOLULU, HILO, SAN FRANCISCO, SAN PEDRO, SALIN,

CRUZ, BALBOA, CALLAO, MOLLEND, ARICA &amp; IQUIQUE.

THROUGH BY TRANS-ANDALAN ROUTE TO BUENOS AIRES.

| STEAMERS                 | TONS   | LEAVE HONGKONG   |
|--------------------------|--------|------------------|
| SEIYO MARU               | 14,000 | Nov. 9th.        |
| TOKUYO MARU (Cargo only) | 17,200 | Dec. 8th.        |
| KIYO MARU                | 17,200 | Jan. 10th, 1922. |

For full information regarding passengers, freight and sailings, apply to—

Y. TSUTSUMI, Manager,

King's Building.

Agents at Canton:

Messrs. T. E. GRIFFITH, LTD.

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## MESSAGERIES MARITIMES.

## FRENCH MAIL LINES.

SAILINGS FROM HONGKONG SUBJECT TO ALTERATION.

DESTINATION STEAMER &amp; DEPARTURE SAILING DATE

|                           |              |                       |
|---------------------------|--------------|-----------------------|
| SHANGHAI, KOBE & YOKOHAMA | "CORDILLERE" | On or about 22nd Oct. |
|---------------------------|--------------|-----------------------|

|                                                               |                |                       |
|---------------------------------------------------------------|----------------|-----------------------|
| MARSEILLES via SAIGON, SINGAPORE, COLOMBO, DIBOUTI, PORT SAID | "ARMAND BEHIO" | On or about 10th Oct. |
|---------------------------------------------------------------|----------------|-----------------------|

ALL STEAMERS FITTED WITH WIRELESS TELEGRAPHY.

For full particulars regarding sailings, etc., apply to—

R. HODENFUSER

Acting Agent,

Queen's Building.



## TRANS-PACIFIC FREIGHT SERVICE

Operating the following U.S. Shipping Board Steamers

For SEATTLE, TACOMA, VICTORIA, &amp; VANCOUVER

(Calling at Shanghai and Kobe)

"ICONIUM" ... About Oct. 12th.

"ELDRIDGE" ... About Oct. 19th.

"WHEATLAND" ... About Nov. 17th.

For PORTLAND direct.

(Calling at Kobe and Yokohama).

"ABERCOS" ... About Oct. 22nd.

For SEATTLE.

Through Bills of Lading issued in Overland Ocean ports.

For Freight and Particulars apply to—

## THE ADMIRAL LINE.

Telephone 2477 &amp; 2478. Fifth Floor, HOTEL MANHATTAN.

## PACIFIC MAIL S.S. CO.

## U.S. MAIL LINE

Operating the new first-class steamers

"ECUADOR," "VENEZUELA" &amp; "COLOMBIA."

HONGKONG TO SAN FRANCISCO,

via SHANGHAI, KOBE, YOKOHAMA &amp; HONOLULU.

THE SUNSHINE BELT.

The most comfortable route to America and Europe.

SAILINGS FROM HONGKONG AT NOON.

U.S. SHIPPING BOARD VESSEL

For SAN FRANCISCO.

## HONGKONG-CALCUTTA SERVICE.

Cargo accepted on through Bills of Lading to all points in the U.S.

States and Canada, also through Bills of Lading to Baltimore, Havana, Genoa.

For further information apply to—

PACIFIC MAIL S.S. CO.

Hotel Mandarin.

Cable Address "SOLARCO."

Telephone 141.



